

Deane Dana Friendship Community Regional Park

Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation Mission

- To provide the residents and visitors of Los Angeles County with quality opportunities that promote a healthy lifestyle and strengthen the community through diverse physical, educational and cultural programming and enhances the community environment by acquiring, developing, and maintaining parks, gardens, golf courses, trails and open spaces.



Only Regional Park and Natural Area in the 4th District

- ▶ As a Regional Park, Deane Dana Friendship Park services all residents of Los Angeles County.
- ▶ With a focus on a 47 square mile radius which includes the communities of Torrance, Carson, Maywood, Wilmington, Lomita, San Pedro and Rancho Palos Verdes.

Current Attendance

- ▶ The annual attendance is approximately: 92,000.
- ▶ Just over 8,000 of those are school children on field trips and participating in park programs.
- ▶ Schools come from Los Angeles, San Pedro, South Bay, San Gabriel, Carson, Maywood, Garden Grove, Pasadena, Wilmington, and Rancho Palos Verdes.

Need for education opportunities

- ▶ Through the years we have notified there is a disconnect between the park users and the parks conservation efforts.
- ▶ We determined that many people utilizing the park had no knowledge of these efforts.
- ▶ It became apparent there is a strong need for education about these critically endangered resources.

Trailside Observation Stations

- ▶ On June 29, 2010, the Board adopted a resolution approving the submission of a grant application and authorizing acceptance of grant funds for the Friendship Park Observation Stations Project
- ▶ On April 12, 2011, the State of California Office of Grants and Local Services announced its intention to award \$179,000 to the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation.
- ▶ On November 13, 2012 the Board approved the Capitol project, scope and budget.
- ▶ Four separate community meetings were held at Friendship Park:
 - November 6, 2013
 - March 8, 2014
 - October 16, 2014
 - March 3, 2015.
- ▶ The project is scheduled to be completed by Spring 2016.

Trailside Observation Stations

Project Scope:

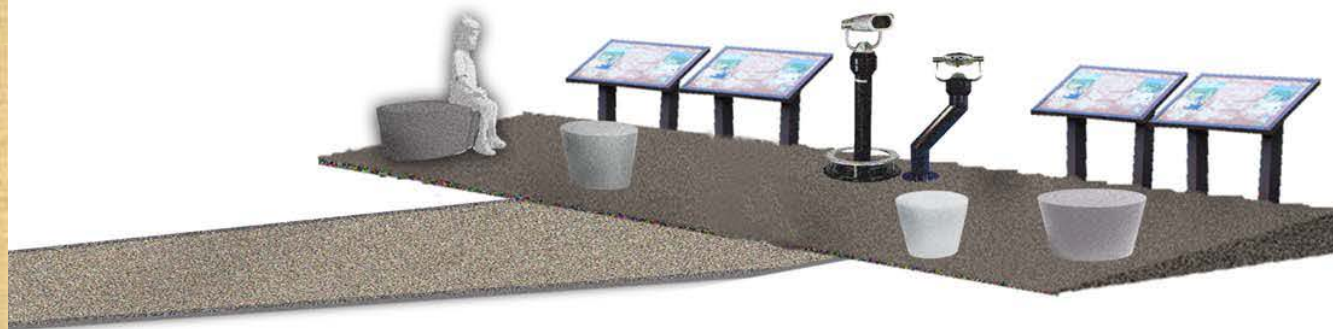
- ▶ Two observation station.
- ▶ Station 1 - Platform (8' x 18'), shade structure, interpretive signage and spotting scopes.
- ▶ Station 2 - Platform (8' x 18'), interpretive signage and spotting scopes.



Observation Station #1
Friendship Park
Concept Rendering (not to scale)







Observation Stations
Friendship Park
Concept Rendering (not to scale)

Purpose:

- Provide a comprehensive array of learning and discovery to increase the general public understanding and knowledge of local natural resources.
- Foster appreciation, conversation and preservation of these species.
- Demonstrate and encourage environmental stewardship.
- Provide an educational hiking destination/stop for school groups and park visitors.
- Promote nature connection and physical activity through exploration.

Costal Sage Scrub



Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly



California Gnatcatchers



Gnatcatcher Distribution



Location of the each site:

The each site was chosen to provide a viewing area that met three criteria which highlights the Natural Resources intending to be interpreted;

- ▶ Coastal Sage Scrub Habitat
- ▶ Documented occurrences and/or nesting of the California Gnatcatcher
- ▶ Release sites of the Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly.

Sites where also chosen for:

- ▶ Ability to provide the best example of habitat restoration and natural habitat.
- ▶ Ability to provide habitat with a contrasting background of urbanization.
- ▶ Just off an existing trail where there will be minimal impact.
- ▶ Different vantage points with different terrain.
- ▶ Distance apart to encourage physical activity.
- ▶ ADA accessibility.

Targeted Audiences:

- ▶ General Public
- ▶ School-aged children
- ▶ College students
- ▶ People with mental and physical disabilities
- ▶ Hikers

Comment Stations

- ▶ Safety / Security
- ▶ Park Operations
- ▶ Observation Station Project
- ▶ Habitat and Wildlife conservation